## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## **LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (Original) An absorbent article comprising:

an absorbent body,

a liquid-permeable covering layer arranged over a first surface on the absorbent body, and

a liquid-permeable liquid-transfer layer arranged between the absorbent body and the liquid-permeable covering layer,

wherein the liquid-permeable covering layer comprises a nonwoven material with a pore volume distribution curve with a maximum at a pore radius greater than or equal to  $50~\mu m$  and with a wetting angle of at least  $120^\circ$ , and

wherein the liquid-transfer layer comprises a fibrous layer with a pore volume distribution curve with a maximum at a pore radius of from 105 to 325  $\mu$ m.

2. (Original) The absorbent article according to Claim 1, wherein the liquid-permeable covering layer has a pore volume distribution curve with a maximum at a pore radius greater than or equal to 55  $\mu$ m.

- 3. (Original) The absorbent article according to Claim 2, wherein the liquid-permeable covering layer has a pore volume distribution curve with a maximum at a pore radius of from 55  $\mu$ m to 60  $\mu$ m.
- 4. (Original) The absorbent article according to Claim 1, wherein the liquid-permeable covering layer comprises fibers with a fiber fineness of at least 5 dtex.
- 5. (Original) The absorbent article according to Claim 1, wherein the liquid-permeable covering layer has a basis weight of at most 15 g/m<sup>2</sup>.
- 6. (Original) The absorbent article according to Claim 1, wherein the liquid-permeable covering layer comprises a spunbond nonwoven.
- 7. (Original) The absorbent article according to Claim 1, wherein the liquid-transfer layer comprises a polyester wadding bonded with a binding agent.
- 8. (Original) The absorbent article according to Claim 1, wherein the liquid-transfer layer has a pore volume distribution curve with a maximum at a pore radius of from 115  $\mu$ m to 185  $\mu$ m.
- 9. (Original) The absorbent article according to Claim 8, wherein the liquid-transfer layer has a pore volume distribution curve with a maximum at a pore radius of from 135  $\mu$ m to 155  $\mu$ m.

Attorney's Docket No. 1018798-000224 Application No. 10/788,446 Page 4

- 10. (Original) The absorbent article according to Claim 1, wherein the liquid-transfer layer has a cumulative pore volume in the pore size range of from 110 to 350  $\mu$ m which is more than 60% of the total pore volume.
- 11. (Original) The absorbent article according to Claim 10, wherein the liquid-transfer layer has a cumulative pore volume in the pore size range of from 120 to 230  $\mu$ m which is more than 40% of the total pore volume.
- 12. (Original) The absorbent article according to Claim 11, wherein the liquid-transfer layer has a cumulative pore volume in the pore size range of from 150 to 180  $\mu$ m which is more than 15% of the total pore volume.
- 13. (Original) The absorbent article according to Claim 1, wherein the liquid-transfer layer comprises fibers with a fiber fineness of from 6.7 to 11 dtex.
- 14. (Original) The absorbent article according to Claim 1, wherein the liquid-transfer layer has a basis weight of from 10 gsm to 100 gsm, and a bulk of at least 15 cm<sup>3</sup>/g measured at a load of 0.1 kPa.
- 15. (Original) The absorbent article according to Claim 1, wherein the liquid-transfer layer has a pore volume distribution curve with a maximum located at from 155  $\mu$ m to 165  $\mu$ m in combination with a cumulative liquid volume of 0.1 mm<sup>3</sup>/mg of sample or more in pores with radii smaller than or equal to 25  $\mu$ m.

Attorney's Docket No. 1018798-000224 Application No. 10/788,446 Page 5

- 16. (Original) The absorbent article according to Claim 1, wherein the article comprises a liquid-impermeable covering layer located over a second surface on the absorbent body opposite the first surface, and in that the liquid-permeable covering layer and the liquid-impermeable covering layer together enclose the absorbent body.
- 17. (Newly added) The absorbent article according to Claim 1, wherein the first surface on the absorbent body defines a user-facing surface.
- 18. (Newly added) The absorbent article according to Claim 1, wherein the liquid-permeable liquid-transfer layer is arranged immediately adjacent to the absorbent body.
- 19. (Newly added) The absorbent article according to Claim 1, wherein the absorbent body comprises one or more layers of material.